

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 01707 281928Z

72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 AGR-05 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 080941

R 281754Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9896

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L T E G U C I G A L P A 1 7 0 7

E.O. 71652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, EAGR, HO

SUBJECT: FESITRANH REACTION TO GOH CHANGES

1. EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT FESITRANH (NORTH COAST LABOR FEDERATION) LEADERS IP HAS ONLY ONE SERIOUS RESERVATION ABOUT THE RECENT CHANGES WITHIN THE GOH, I.E., THE APPARENT INCREASE IN THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. FESITRANH AND ITS CAMPESINO AFFILIATE, ANACH, SEE THE GREATEST THREAT TO THEIR INTERESTS IN THE SELECTION OF FERNANDO MONTES AS MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES. THEY ALSO SEE IN THE APPOINTMENT OF VICENTE WILLIAMS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AS AN ADVISOR TO CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR A CONFIRMATION OF INCREASING CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC INFLUENCE IN THE GOH.

2. FESITRANH HAS AN ENDURING SUSPEICION OF CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO LEAD THE CHRISTIAN-OREINTED LABOR ORGANIZATIONS (CGT, FASH) AND THE CAMPESINO AFFILIATE (UNC). FESITRANH AND ANACH LEADERS FEAR THAT MONTES WILL USE THE RESOURCES OF HIS MINISTRY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEGUCI 01707 281928Z

TO SUPPORT THE INTERESTS OF THE UNC OVER THOSE OF ANACH.

3. IN A MEETING WITH ANACH LEADERS DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 21, MONTES REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE (LIKE ANACH AND THE UNC) WAS OPPOSED TO THE "EMPRESAS ASOCIATIVAS" (COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES) REQUIRED BY THE RECENT AGRARIAN REFORM LAW. HE PROPOSED THAT UNC AND ANACH FORM A UNITED FRONT TO OPPOSE THAT PROVISION OF THE LAW AND SUGGESTED THAT HE WOULD WORK WITHIN THE GOH TOWARD THE SAME END. ANACH LEADERS SUSPECT THAT MONTES IS TRYING TO USE THEIR ORGANIZATION FOR HIS OWN POLITICAL PURPOSES.

4. FESITRANH IS APPARENTLY SATISFIED WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF ENRIQUE FLORES AS LABMIN. HE IS KNOWN TO THE FEDERATION LEADERSHIP AND IS THOUGHT TO SHARE THE PRO-LABOR PHILOSOPHY OF OUTGOING LABMIN FONSECA.

5. COMMENT: THE NAMING OF FERNANDO MONTES AS MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES MAY SIGNLA A FUTURE POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN THE GOH ON THE QUESTION OF AGRARIAN REFORM. MONTES REGARDS HIMSELF AS AN EXPERT ON AGRARIAN MATTERS AND HAS SPENT MANY YEARS WORKING WITH THE HONDURAN CAMPESINO. HE ALSO HOLDS A DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS. MONTES IS CLOSELY TIED TO THE CHRISTIAN-DSTOCRATIC CAMPESINO ASSOCIATION, UNC, WHICH HAS BEEN STRONLY OPPOSED TO THE GOH AGRARIAN REFORM LAW SINCE ITS ANNOUNCEMENT. IT IS LIKELY THAT MONTES WILL USE THE RESOURCES OF HIS MINISTRY IN THE RURAL SECTOR IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH HIS OWN PHILOSOPHY. IF HE STRONGLY OPPOSES THE EMPRESAS ASOCIATIVAS HE IS LIKELY TO CLASH WITH EQUALY STRONG WILLED LT. COLONEL MARIO MALDONADO, DIRECTOR INA (NATIONAL AGRARIAN INSTITUTE).
SANCHEZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, REORGANIZATIONS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEGUCI01707
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750149-0191
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975049/aaaaaixa.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FESITRANH REACTION TO GOH CHANGES
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, EAGR, PGOV, HO, FESITRANH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006